

Sector Vessel Operating Guide

Fishing Year 2011



This summary is not a substitute for the Federal regulations; rather it provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that apply to this fishery. You are strongly encouraged to read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet, which may be found in the Code of Federal Regulations.

To report fishery law violations, call the OLE hotline at 1-800-853-1964.





NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Office and NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Northeast Division

Director's Office – General Information: 978-281-9200

- **Olivia Rugo**, Fisheries Outreach Coordinator: 978-675-2167

Sustainable Fisheries Division – General Information: 978-281-9315

- **Mark Grant**, Northeast Fisheries Sectors: 978-281-9145
- **Allison Murphy**, Port Clyde, Northeast Coastal Communities, and Tri State Sectors: 978-281-9122
- **Melissa Vasquez**, Cape Cod Fixed Gear and Sustainable Harvest Sector: 978-281-9166
- **Willie Whitmore**, Sector back-up and Maine Permit Bank Sector: 978-281-9182

New England Fisheries Science Center

- **Amy Van Atten**, At-Sea Monitoring: 508-495-2266
- **Sarah Cierpich**, Pre-Trip Notification System: 508-495-2309

Fisheries Data Services Division

- Dealer electronic reporting: 978-281-9212
- IVR reporting: 978-281-9209
- Vessel Trip Reporting: 978-281-9246
- Historic dealer data corrections: 978-675-2160
- Questions about vessel data: 978-281-9246
- Request for vessel logbooks: 978-281-9157

Analysis and Program Support Division

- Vessel, dealer or operator permits: 978-282-8438
- Requests for data: 978-281-9133
- Fish-on-Line PINs; IVR PINs: 978-281-9133

Office of Law Enforcement - General Information 978-281-9213

- To report fishery law violations, call the OLE hotline at 1-800-853-1964.
- **District 1** (Boston, MA to Maine): 617-892-0265
- **District 2** (New Bedford, MA to Rhode Island): 508-989-4975
- **District 3** (New York and New Jersey): 908-339-1148
- **District 4** (Delaware to Virginia/North Carolina border): 908-339-1148
- *VMS support*
 - **Bill Semrau**, VMS Program Manager, 978-281-9151
 - **Linda Galvin**, Multispecies (US/CA and B-DAS); VMS Training; Activations/Registrations; Letters of Exemption/Power-Downs, 978-281-9230
- *Outreach*
 - **Don Frei**, Compliance Assistance Liaison, 978-675-2198
 - **Sheila Jarnes**, Fisheries Outreach Specialist, 978-281-9321

Sector Manager Contact Information: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sectordocs/SectorContacts.pdf>

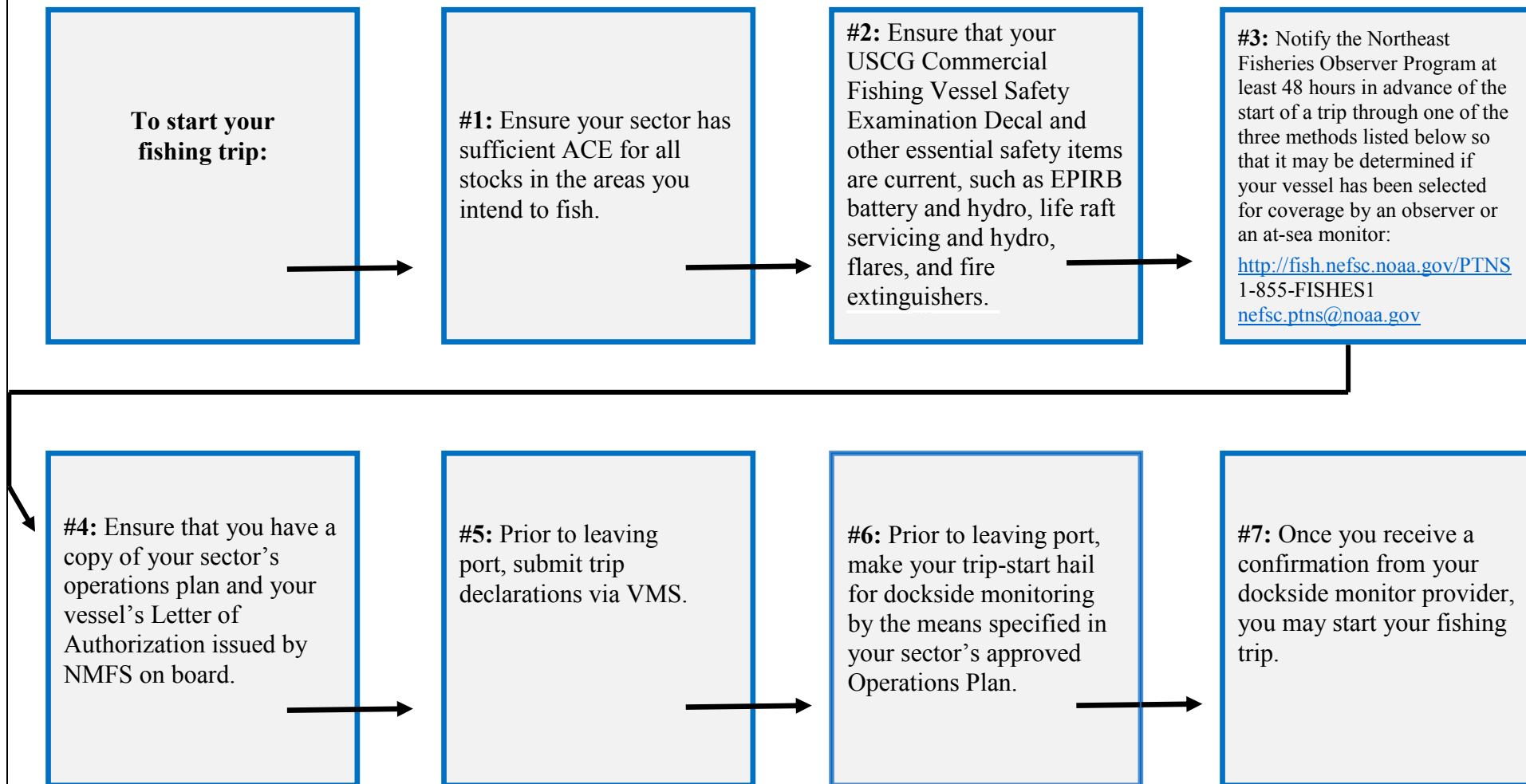
Dockside Monitoring: Please call your sector manager and/or provider with any DSM issues or questions.



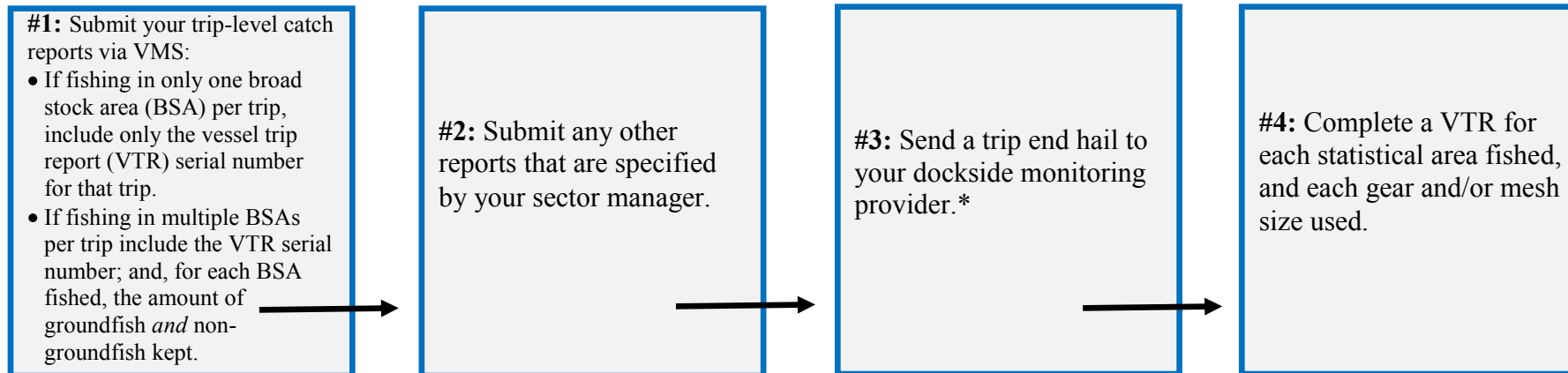


Sector Vessel Monitoring and Reporting Flowchart

This flowchart is a reminder for vessel operators of the monitoring and reporting requirements for sector fishing trips. It is the vessel owner's responsibility to adhere to all federal regulatory requirements and to any operating instructions issued by the sector manager through the approved Sector Operating Plan.



To end your fishing trip...



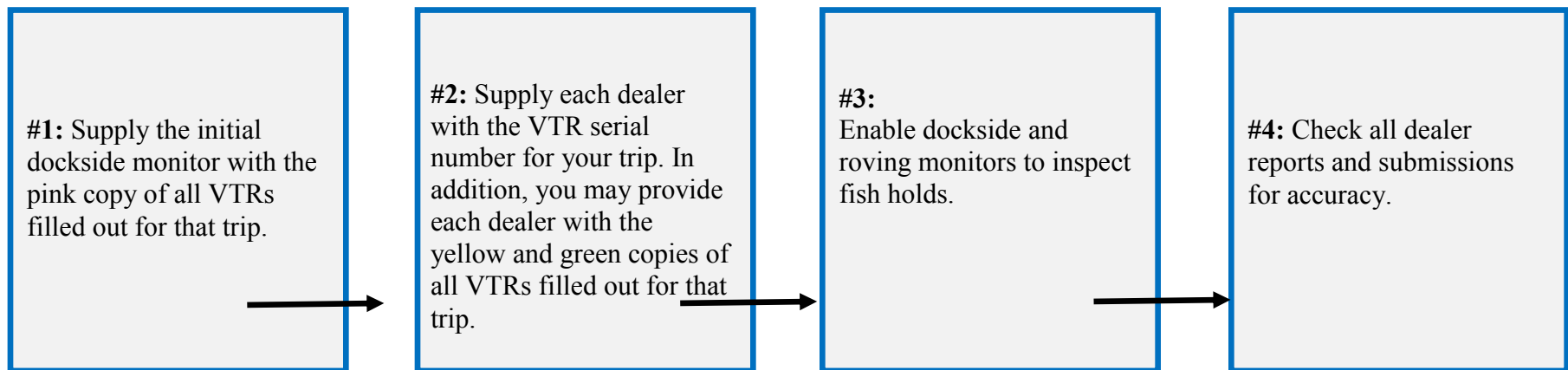
*For all trips longer than 6 hours and occurring more than 6 hours from port, vessels must send hail trip end to the DSM at least 6 hours in advance of landing. For trips shorter than 6 hours or for trips occurring within 6 hours of port, trip end hail notification time is determined in your sector's operating plan.

If your vessel is selected for dockside monitoring...

In the trip end hail confirmation from your dockside monitor provider, you will be informed whether your vessel was selected for dockside monitoring or whether it received a dockside monitoring waiver for that trip.

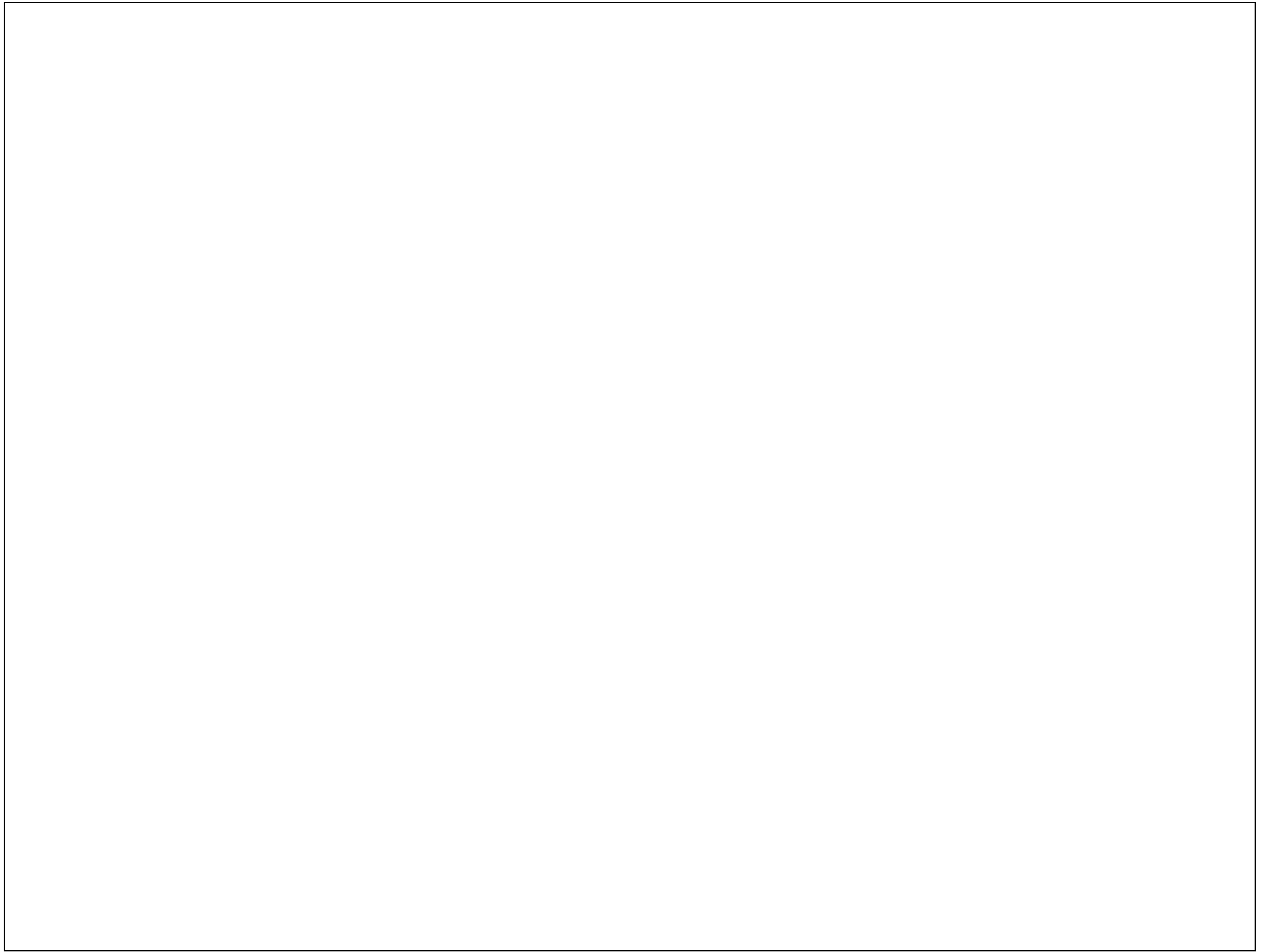
If your vessel is selected for dockside monitoring and is off-loading to a truck, a dockside monitor must be present at *each* dealer that receives fish in order to certify weigh-out of all landings. The roving and dockside monitors may be the same person or different individuals. **If a vessel has been selected for dockside monitoring and the monitor is not present when the vessel lands**, wait until the monitor arrives before beginning *any* offloading.

If your vessel receives a waiver, provide copies of all VTRs and dealer receipts for the trip to the sector manager within 24 hours of offloading.



VTRs

1. Submit all VTR copies to your sector manager as required. They may be delivered by your dockside manager to your sector manager.
2. Submit all VTRs for the week, including “did not fish” reports (which may be submitted through Fish On-Line, to NMFS by midnight of the first **Tuesday** following the end of the reporting week).





Pre-Trip Notification System

Vessel Instructions for Multispecies Trips

Phone: 1-855-FISHES1,
Operators available 24/7.
nefsc.ptns@noaa.gov

NOTIFICATIONS FOR MULTISPECIES TRIPS MUST BE MADE A FULL 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE

Notifications received less than 48 hours in advance may be required to delay departure up to 48 hours from the time of initial notification if an observer is not available earlier.

There are 3 different methods available for 48-hour pre-trip notification for multispecies trips:

1. **Internet (preferred method)** – This should be the primary means of trip notification and trip changes. Follow these basic steps to submit your notifications online:

Step 1. Log into your PTNS account

- a. Navigate your browser to <http://fish.nefsc.noaa.gov/PTNS>
- b. Enter the same username (Permit Number) and password (PIN) as used for Fish-On-Line
- c. Click the “Login” button
- d. After logging into your PTNS account, verify vessel name
- e. Enter/verify contact phone numbers and email addresses under the “Registration” tab

Step 2. Enter a new trip

- a. Click on the “New Trip” tab
- b. Enter sail date and time of planned trip
- c. Select fishery – “Multispecies (MUL)”
- d. Enter estimated trip duration in whole days
- e. Select port of departure
- f. Select gear intending to fish
- g. Select area intending to fish
- h. Select Special Management Program, if applicable (i.e. **US/Canada Area**, Closed Area I Hook Haddock SAP)
- i. If making a set-only gillnet trip, check the box next to “Set-Only Trip”
- j. Click on “Submit” once and wait for the site to show your confirmation number and selection status

For trips 1 or 2 days in length: Enter information for *each* potential sail date separately, up to 9 days in advance (48 hours of notification time allows a maximum of 7 sail dates)

2. **Email** – This should be the secondary means of trip notification. **There may be a delay in receipt of vessel selection status notification if using email or telephone notification.** The email address to submit trip notifications, trip changes, questions, or problems is nefsc.ptns@noaa.gov.

Include in the email:

- a. Vessel permit number
- b. Planned sail date and time
- c. Fishery: multispecies
- d. Estimated trip duration in whole days
- e. Port of sail
- f. Gear (trawl, longline, handline, gillnet >8”, gillnet 8” and larger)
- g. Area fishing (Georges Bank, Gulf of Maine, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic)
- h. Special Management Program if applicable (i.e. US/Canada Area, Closed Area I Hook Haddock SAP)
- i. Phone number, if new to using PTNS

3. **Telephone** – This is the backup means of notification. The phone number is **1-855-FISHES1**, effective March 11, 2011. At this number, the PTNS coordinator is available from 8:00 AM – 5:00PM on business days. After business hours, and on weekends and holidays, calls will be fielded by an answering service operator who is qualified to enter notifications, to answer frequently asked questions, and to help troubleshoot common PTNS issues. In emergency situations, the operator will immediately contact a NMFS representative for assistance.

All notification information listed below should be relayed to the answerer or left in a clear voicemail:

- a. Caller's name and phone number
- b. Vessel permit number
- c. Planned sail date and time
- d. Fishery: multispecies
- e. Estimated trip duration in whole days
- f. Port of sail,
- g. Gear (trawl, longline, handline, gillnet >8", gillnet 8" and larger)
- h. Area fishing (Georges Bank, Gulf of Maine, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic)
- i. Special Management Program if applicable (i.e. US/Canada Area, Closed Area I Hook Haddock SAP)

There may be a delay in receipt of vessel selection status notification if using email or telephone notification.

After a trip is entered, you will be notified of your selection status

Once a trip is entered into the PTNS, either by the vessel or a PTNS administrator, it will be issued a confirmation number and will be either selected for coverage or assigned a waiver. Under the "Pending Trips" tab, the status of each trip is immediately viewable once it is entered. The vessel's VMS and email contacts will receive an automated email upon trip entry indicating coverage selection or issuance of a waiver.

If selected for coverage, await contact from the provider

If your vessel is selected for coverage, a service provider will contact you within 24 hours of receiving the notification. If an observer is not available to cover your trip, the vessel will receive a waiver notification via email within 24 hours of trip entry. Once an observer arrives at the vessel or a waiver is received, the vessel may begin its trip. *A trip may not sail without an observer unless it has been issued a waiver.*

DELAYS AND CANCELLATIONS

If a vessel must delay a multi-day trip sail date, it should notify the PTNS coordinator and its observer, if applicable. If a vessel is selected for coverage and must cancel the trip, the vessel will be selected for coverage on its next notified trip. Please notify the PTNS coordinator of any trip cancellations, whether the trip has been selected for coverage or if it has been issued a waiver.



Sector Vessel Groundfish Requirements: **Discards, Minimum Sizes, and Observer Responsibilities**

April 2011

This summary is not a substitute for the Federal regulations; rather it provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that apply to this fishery. You are strongly encouraged to read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet.

1. Discard requirements:

[648.87 (b)(1)(v)(A)]

Sector vessels may not discard any legal-sized groundfish of allocated stocks, including legal-sized, unmarketable fish (LUMF) of stocks allocated to sectors. If LUMF is caught, it must be reported through your vessel trip report (VTR) and brought to shore, where it may be disposed.

In addition, they are prohibited from retaining any ocean pout, windowpane flounder, Atlantic wolffish, and Southern New England/ Mid-Atlantic winter flounder. Atlantic halibut may not be possessed once the one-fish per trip limit is reached.

2. Current federal minimum fish sizes for commercial vessels:

[648.83 (a)(1)]

<i>Species</i>	<i>Minimum Size</i>
Cod	22" (55.9 cm)
Haddock	18" (45.7 cm)
Pollock	19" (48.3 cm)
Redfish	9" (22.9 cm)
Atlantic halibut	41" (104.1 cm)
Yellowtail flounder	13" (33.0 cm)
American plaice (dabs)	14" (35.6 cm)
Winter flounder (blackback)	12" (30.5 cm)
Witch flounder (gray sole)	14" (35.6 cm)
White hake	No minimum size
Windowpane flounder	N/A
Ocean Pout	N/A
Atlantic Wolffish	N/A

3. Observer Responsibilities:

[648.11 (i)(3)(v); 648.5 (c)]

Sector vessel captains are responsible for determining if caught fish are of legal size. Observers are responsible for recording information about the catch, including the disposition (reason for retention or discarding) of the fish as determined by the captain.

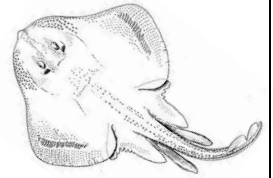
For questions about these requirements, contact your sector manager or NOAA Fisheries Service staff at (978) 281-9315.





Northeast Skate Fishery **Prohibitions and Possession Limits**

April 2011



GENERAL INFORMATION

This summary provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that apply to the skate fishery; it is not a substitute for the regulations. You are strongly encouraged to read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet to fully understand how the commercial skate fishery is managed. Skate fishery regulations may be found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR part 648, subpart O.

SKATE MANAGEMENT UNIT

The management unit of the Northeast (NE) skate fishery encompasses the area of the Atlantic Ocean from 35°15.3' N. lat., the approximate latitude of Cape Hatteras Light, North Carolina, northward to the U.S.-Canada border, extending eastward from shore to the outer boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and northward to the U.S.-Canada border (Hague Line) (Figure 1).

COMMERCIAL FISHING PERMITS

Any vessel that fishes for, catches, possesses, transports, lands, sells, trades, or barter skates in or from the Skate Management Unit (SMU) must have a valid Federal skate permit. The operator of a permitted skate vessel must have a valid operator's permit. To obtain an application for the permits, contact the NE Region Permit Operations Office at (978) 281-9370 or online at: www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/.

NORTHEAST SKATE COMPLEX

Seven species comprise the NE skate complex:

Winter skate	<i>Leucoraja ocellata</i>
Barndoor skate	<i>Dipturus laevis</i>
Thorny skate	<i>Amblyraja radiata</i>
Smooth skate	<i>Malacoraja senta</i>
Little skate	<i>Leucoraja erinacea</i>
Cleannose skate	<i>Raja eglanteria</i>
Rosette skate	<i>Leucoraja garmani</i>

Information on distinguishing among the seven skate species in the NE skate complex can be found at the following link:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdskate.html>.

PROHIBITIONS

Possession or landing of barndoor and thorny skates **is prohibited** throughout the Skate Management Unit. In addition, possession or landing of smooth skates from the Gulf of Maine Regulated Mesh Area (Figure 2) **is prohibited**. For more information on the prohibited species, see the last page of this information sheet.

SKATE TOTAL ALLOWABLE LANDINGS (TAL)

Each fishing year (May 1-April 30), the skate wing fishery is allocated 66.5 percent of the Federal TAL for skates. The skate bait fishery is allocated 33.5 percent of the Federal TAL for skates.

SKATE WING FISHERY POSSESSION LIMITS

DAS Vessels

A vessel fishing on a NE multispecies, scallop, or monkfish Day-At-Sea (DAS) may possess and land up to 5,000 lb of skate wings (11,350 lb whole weight) per trip, with the exception that a vessel fishing on a NE multispecies category B DAS (regardless of gear type) may only possess 220 lb of skate wings (500 lb whole weight) (Table 1).

Non-DAS Vessels and Sector Vessels

A vessel not fishing in any DAS program, including a NE multispecies sector vessel, may possess and land an incidental limit of 500 lb of skate wings (1,135 lb of whole weight) per trip, as long as the vessel possesses a valid skate permit. A sector vessel that lands the higher trip limit described above must use a DAS.

Multispecies DAS Exemption Programs

Unless fishing in the Mid-Atlantic Exemption Area, a vessel fishing in a multispecies DAS exemption program that permits skate retention may possess and land skate or skate parts equal to 10 percent, by weight, of all other species on board, or 500 lb of skate wings (1,135 lb whole weight), whichever is less. Additional information on the multispecies DAS exemption programs can be found at:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdmulti.html>.

Inseason Adjustment of Wing Possession Limit

When 80 percent of the Skate Wing TAL is landed, the Regional Administrator (RA) will reduce the 5,000-lb skate wing (11,350-lb whole weight) possession limit to the incidental limit of 500 lb of skate wings (1,135 lb whole weight) for all vessels for the remainder of the fishing year, provided that doing so would not prevent the Skate Wing TAL from being attained.

Table 1. Skate Possession Limits During Open Fishing Seasons

	Trip Limit (lb)		
	Skate Wing	Whole Skate	Whole Skate Bait w/ LOA
Multispecies*, Scallop, or Monkfish DAS	5,000	11,350	20,000*
Multispecies B DAS	220	500	500
Non-DAS	500	1,135	1,135

*These limits also apply to vessels fishing in an approved Skate Fishery Exemption Area defined in the NE multispecies regulations at § 648.80.

SKATE BAIT FISHERY SEASONS AND POSSESSION LIMITS

The Skate Bait TAL is divided into three seasons to help maintain a supply of bait throughout the fishing year (Table 2).

Table 2. Skate Bait Fishery Seasons

Season		Percentage of Skate Bait TAL
1	May 1–July 31	30.8
2	August 1–October 31	37.1
3	November 1–April 30	Remainder of Skate Bait TAL

A vessel with a valid Skate Bait Letter of Authorization (LOA) may possess and land up to 20,000 lb of skates, provided that all skates on board remain in whole form and none measure more than 23 inches total length (Table 1).

Inseason Adjustment of Bait Possession Limit

When 90% of the seasonal quota is landed in either Season 1 or 2, or when 90% of the annual Skate Bait TAL is landed, the RA will close the directed fishery by reducing the skate bait possession limit to the whole weight equivalent of the skate wing possession limit in effect at that time (11,350 lb or 1,135 lb)

SKATE BAIT FISHERY LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

A holder of a Federal skate permit may request and receive from the RA an exemption from the skate wing possession limits described above to land whole skates for use as bait. The exemption is granted in an LOA and can be obtained from the Permit Operations Office at (978) 281-9370.

The exemption program requires the following of participants:

- possession/landing of **only** whole skates less than 23 inches total length;
- compliance with the at-sea transfer provisions, if applicable (see below); and
- enrollment for at least 7 days.

The Skate Bait LOA **does not exempt the participating vessel from DAS** requirements of the NE multispecies, monkfish, or scallop fisheries. Therefore, unless a skate bait vessel is fishing in a skate exemption area or is fishing with exempted gear (as defined in the NE multispecies regulations), it must still fish on a NE multispecies, monkfish, or scallop DAS. The LOA only exempts the vessel from the skate wing possession limits described above.

SKATE BAIT TRANSFERS AT SEA

A vessel issued a Federal skate permit may transfer at sea skates taken in or from the SMU provided:

- The transferring vessel has an LOA onboard (see above);
- the owner/operator complies with the requirements of the skate bait exemption program;
- the transferring vessel maintains a record of the quantity of skates transferred according to the current logbook reporting requirements;

- the transferring vessel provides the receiving vessel documentation showing the date and amount of skates transferred, regardless of monetary exchange; and
- the transferring vessel maintains onboard, for at least 1 year from the date of the transfer, a copy of the documentation.

Note: For questions regarding recordkeeping and reporting requirements, the SMU, regulated mesh areas, or prohibited skate species in the Northeast, please see the complete skate information sheet at:

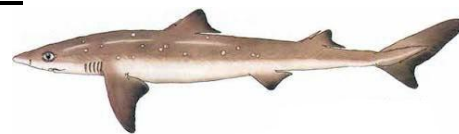
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/NE SkateInfoSheet.pdf>





Northeast Sector Spiny Dogfish Fishery

Possession and Gear Requirements



INTRODUCTION

This summary is not a substitute for the Federal regulations; rather it provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that apply to this fishery. You are strongly encouraged to read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet, which may be found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR part 648, subpart L to fully understand how this fishery is managed.

Federal measures apply to a vessel issued a Federal spiny dogfish permit, no matter where it fishes; however, individual states may set different regulations for the commercial spiny dogfish fishery. In cases where state measures differ from Federal regulations, fishery participants holding Federal spiny dogfish permits must adhere to the more restrictive state or Federal measure.

For information regarding gillnet requirements for protected species; VMS declarations; reporting requirements; and requirements for sale/purchase, and exemption areas, please refer to the complete dogfish fishery information sheet at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/SectorsDogfishInfoSheet.pdf>

PERMITS

Any vessel used to fish for, possess, or land spiny dogfish in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ, waters 3 – 200 nm from shore) from Maine to Florida must have a valid Federal spiny dogfish permit. The permit is an open access permit that any vessel owner can obtain. You may obtain an application for a permit by contacting the Northeast (NE) Region's Permit Office at (978) 281-9370 or online at: www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/

QUOTA

The quota for the fishing year (May 1 - Apr 30) is established by NMFS based on the recommendations of the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils. The commercial quota is allocated seasonally between two quota periods as follows: May 1 through October 31 (Period 1; 57.9%) and November 1 through April 30 (Period 2; 42.1%). All spiny dogfish landings, whether from Federal or state waters, are counted toward the quota. If NMFS determines that a period's quota will be caught, NMFS will notify Federal spiny dogfish permit holders that vessels may not possess, fish for, or land spiny dogfish for the remainder of the quota period. (See table for current quota and allocations.)

Spiny Dogfish Quota and Possession Limits 2011 Commercial Quota = TBD		
Quota Period	Allocation (lb)	Possession Limit (lb)
1. May 1–Oct 31	TBD	3,000
2. Nov 1–Apr 30	TBD	3,000

POSSESSION LIMIT

A vessel with a Federal spiny dogfish permit may not possess or land more than the possession limit, as detailed above, and may land only one trip of spiny dogfish per calendar day.

MINIMUM FISH SIZE

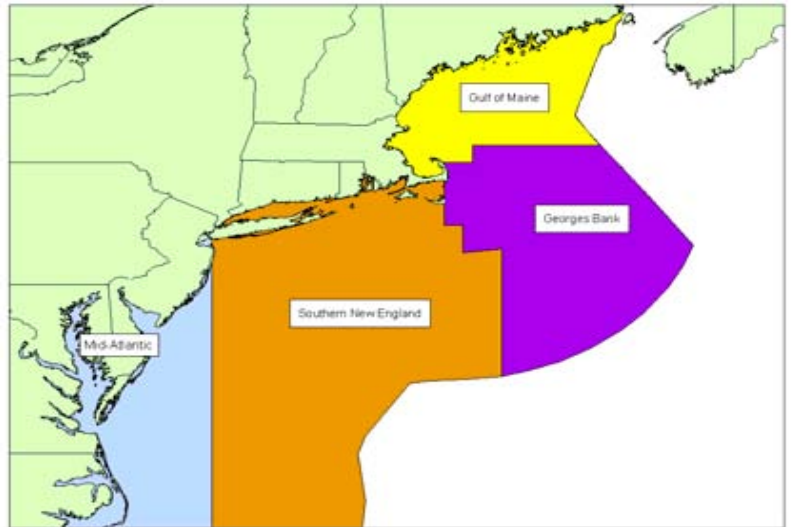
There is no minimum fish size for spiny dogfish.

GEAR & AREA RESTRICTIONS

A vessel fishing for, possessing, or landing spiny dogfish in Federal waters must have a Federal spiny dogfish permit and must comply with all applicable Federal gear and area requirements, including gear/area restrictions to protect right whales and other federally protected species.

North of approximately North Carolina, many NE multispecies groundfish regulations apply to all vessels fishing in Federal waters, regardless of whether or not they have a NE multispecies permit. For example, NE multispecies regulations include four regulated mesh areas (RMAs) that regulate which gear can be used in each of the following areas (see map): Gulf of Maine (GOM); Georges Bank (GB); Southern New England (SNE); and Mid-Atlantic (MA).

For coordinates defining these RMAs, see 50 CFR 648.80 or go to the following site: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/fishermen/carts/mul3.html>



Within these RMAs, a vessel fishing with gillnet and trawl gear must abide by the minimum mesh sizes required by the NE multispecies regulations, as follows in the table below.

Vessels holding a limited access NE multispecies permit, and not on a NE multispecies sector trip, must also comply with the NE multispecies Restricted Gear Areas (RGAs). For coordinates of the RGAs see the Closed Area Information Sheet at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/MultsClosedAreas.pdf>

A vessel fishing for, possessing, or landing spiny dogfish must fish under a scallop or multispecies day-at-sea (DAS), including the multispecies B DAS Program, or on a NE multispecies non-DAS sector trip, or under the rules of an exempted fishery (see table on page 3). A vessel may also fish under a monkfish-only DAS and retain spiny dogfish if it is fishing in a monkfish exemption area, as defined in the large mesh information sheet found at: http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/Large_mesh_exemption.pdf

Regulated Mesh Area	Trawl codend mesh size requirement	Gillnet mesh size requirements	Gillnet net size requirements
Gulf of Maine (GOM)	6.5-inch square or diamond	6.5 inches throughout the entire net	Nets may not be longer than 300 ft (91.4 m), or 50 fathoms (91.4 m) in length
Georges Bank (GB)			
Southern New England (SNE)	6.5-inch square or diamond	6.5 inches throughout the entire net	
Mid-Atlantic (MA)	6.5-inch square or diamond	6.5-inch square or diamond	

If a vessel is not fishing on a NE multispecies non-DAS sector trip or under a multispecies DAS, scallop DAS, or monkfish-only DAS within a monkfish large-mesh exemption area, and wants to possess or land spiny dogfish, the vessel must be fishing in an exemption area (meaning areas where the bycatch of regulated NE multispecies is minimized) that allows for the take of spiny dogfish or fishing with exempted gear.

The table on page 3 lists the exempted fisheries and areas in and from which spiny dogfish may be possessed or landed based on gear type (i.e., trawls, gillnets). For more information on these exempted fisheries and areas and how they pertain to spiny dogfish, see the general spiny dogfish information sheet found at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/SpinyDogFactSheet.pdf>

Any catch of allocated groundfish stocks by a NE multispecies sector vessel while targeting spiny dogfish will count against its sector's ACE, unless the vessel is fishing in an exempted fishery or with exempted gear outside of the DAS program. This means that the vessel's sector must have ACE for all stocks in the area the sector vessel fishes for spiny dogfish and that the sector vessel must participate in its sector's Dockside Monitoring Program and the NMFS At-Sea Monitoring Program on trips targeting dogfish, (again unless the vessel is fishing in an exempted fishery or with exempted gear).

Exemption Areas (EAs) and Fisheries Where Spiny Dogfish Can Be Retained:

Exempted Areas within the GOM/GB RMAs

Trawl

Nantucket Shoals Dogfish EA*
Cultivator Shoal Whiting Fishery EA*†
Small Mesh Areas 1 & 2†
Raised Footrope Trawl Exempted Whiting Fishing Area*†

Gillnet

Nantucket Shoals Dogfish EA*
GOM/GB Dogfish Gillnet EA

* Requires a Letter of Authorization (LOA) to participate. LOAs can be obtained from the Northeast Regional Permit Office at (978) 281-9370.

† Dogfish is considered an incidentally caught species in these EAs. These EAs require the use of small mesh to target whiting.

Exempted Areas within the SNE RMA

Trawl

SNE Exemption Area (includes part of GB RMA)

Gillnet

SNE Dogfish Gillnet EA

Exempted Areas within the MA RMA

Trawl

Mid-Atlantic EA (includes part of SNE RMA)
RMA)

Gillnet

Mid-Atlantic EA (includes part of SNE

A vessel fishing for spiny dogfish in Federal waters must also comply with closed areas for other fisheries, including NE multispecies, unless using gear defined as not capable of catching NE multispecies. Exempted gear includes the following: Pelagic hook and line, pelagic longline, spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tong, harpoons, weirs, dipnets, stop nets, pound nets, pelagic gillnets, pots and traps, shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates), and surfclam/ocean quahog dredges.

The NE multispecies Closed Area regulations can be found at:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/MultsClosedAreas.pdf>

These include seasonal and year-round closures, Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) closures, and transiting/gear stowage requirements.

More information regarding multispecies regulations is available on the NMFS Northeast Region website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdmulti.html>





Fish-On-Line Login Instructions

Anyone holding a federal fishing permit is able to access vessel data via the NMFS Northeast Regional Office's web portal, „Fish-On-Line’. With „Fish-On-Line’, it is possible to track landings information such as information reported to NMFS by seafood dealers and quickly address any missing information or inaccuracies in the data submitted. Only permit holders or their representatives will be able to access vessel landings information.

To login to the system you will need both your 6-digit federal vessel permit number and your 5-digit personal identification number (PIN). Please keep your confidential vessel PIN safe and do not share it with anyone else. If you lose your confidential vessel PIN or cannot access Fish-On-Line please contact NMFS at (978) 281-9133 or by email at fso.data.requests@noaa.gov.

To login, type the following secure URL into your internet browser:

<https://www.nero.noaa.gov/NMFSlogin>

After entering your permit number and PIN, click the „Login’ button.

Once you have successfully logged into the system, you will see a list of the reports available to you on the left side of the page.

Opening a Report:

In order to access your reports, you will need to select a report type. Three different format options are currently available, including HTML (accessed via your internet browser); Excel (a Microsoft Excel file); and, CSV (a comma delimited file available to numerous software applications).

To open a report, click on the desired selection and the report will open in the selected format. HTML reports will open immediately while Excel and CSV reports will prompt you to select „Open’ or „Save’ from a popup box that will appear on your screen.

Saving a Report:

To save your report, click on either the Excel or CSV format box of the report you would like to save. When the popup box appears prompting you to „Open’ or „Save’, click „Save’ and you will be able to choose where on your computer you wish to save the report. You will also be able to rename the report.

Filing an Electronic Did-Not-Fish Report:

To submit Did-Not-Fish reports electronically, click the „VTR Did Not Fish Reporting’ option on the upper right side of the Fish-On-Line homepage. You will be brought to a page with an electronic copy of a paper Fishing Vessel Trip Report form. Click the blue „DID NOT FISH (click here)’ box at the top left of the page. A grid showing either reporting weeks or reporting months (depending on the types of permits you hold) will appear. If the grid shows reporting weeks, it means that you hold at least one permit requiring weekly reporting. Otherwise you can continue to report monthly.

Weeks or months available for reporting appear in blue and are clickable. Weeks or months for which you’ve already submitted a report or for which no report is required are grayed out and not clickable.

Click the week or month for which you would like to submit a Did-Not-Fish report. A small „Submit VTR’ button will appear above the reporting grid. Click the button and an electronic copy of your Fishing Vessel Trip Report will appear. Your vessel name, USCG Documentation Number and Federal permit number will be filled in automatically. A Trip ID number will also appear. You have successfully submitted an electronic Did-Not-Fish report! This is your official copy. Please print for your records.

Unavailable Reports

There may be times when a report is unavailable. This may occur for several reasons. One such reason would be there is no data available for a specific report or permit. There may also be times when the system is updating and all reports are unavailable. In this case, your data should be available again when the system has completed updating.

Application Time Out

Another security feature you may want to be aware of is the application time out feature. After 15 minutes of inactivity you will automatically be logged out of the system and you will need to login again. This is to prevent unauthorized access of your reports should you walk away from your computer. You may log back into the system by selecting the link „Click to Login Again’.

It is recommended that when you have completed viewing your reports that you logout of the system by selecting the „Log out’ link at the top of the Fish-On-Line home page. This can also help prevent unauthorized access to your data.

Account Locked

You will be allowed 3 attempts to login. If after the 3rd attempt you are not able to successfully login your account will be locked in order to prevent unauthorized access to your account.

If your account is locked, contact NMFS at (978) 281-9209 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, or by e-mail at fso.data.requests@noaa.gov.



Northeast Multispecies Information Sheet: **Sector Closed Area Regulations**

This summary provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements for Northeast Multispecies Sector Vessels; it is not a substitute for the regulations. You must read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet to fully understand how this fishery is managed. This information sheet will be updated when regulations are revised. The regulations summarized here may be found at 50 CFR 648.81.

This information sheet summarizes the NE multispecies regulations pertaining to:

Transiting Regulations and Gear Stowage Requirements.....	1
Gulf of Maine (GOM) Rolling Closure Areas.....	2-4
Year-round Groundfish Closed Areas.....	5-8
U.S./Canada (US/CA) Management Area and Special Access Programs (SAPs).....	8-9
Restricted Gear Areas (RGA).....	10-15
GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area.....	16

TRANSITING REGULATIONS

A vessel may transit Closed Area (CA) I, the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area (NLCA), the Cashes Ledge Closed Area, the Western Gulf of Maine (GOM) Closure Area, the GOM Rolling Closure Areas, and the EFH Closure Areas, provided that its gear is stowed in accordance with the regulations summarized below.

A vessel may transit CA II for valid and compelling safety reasons or when lawfully fishing in the U.S./Canada Management Area, provided fishing gear is stored in accordance with the regulations summarized below.

GEAR STOWAGE REQUIREMENTS

For gear to be considered legally stowed for the purpose of transiting a closed area, a vessel must meet one or more of the following requirements:

TRAWL GEAR

- A net stowed below deck: Provided it is located below the main working deck from which the net is deployed and retrieved; the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net; and it is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference.
- A net stowed and lashed down on deck: Provided it is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference; it is securely fastened to the deck or rail of the vessel; and the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net.
- On-reel stowage for vessels transiting seasonal closure areas: A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: The entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar opaque material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the doors; and no containment rope, codend tripping device, or other mechanism to close off the codend is attached to the codend.
- On-reel stowage for vessels transiting the permanent closure areas: A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: The entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar opaque material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the net; and the codend is removed and stored below deck.

SCALLOP DREDGES

- The towing wire is detached from the scallop dredge, the towing wire is reeled up onto the winch, and the dredge is secured and covered so that it is rendered unusable for fishing.

HOOK GEAR

- All anchors and buoys are secured and all hook gear, including jigging machines, is covered.

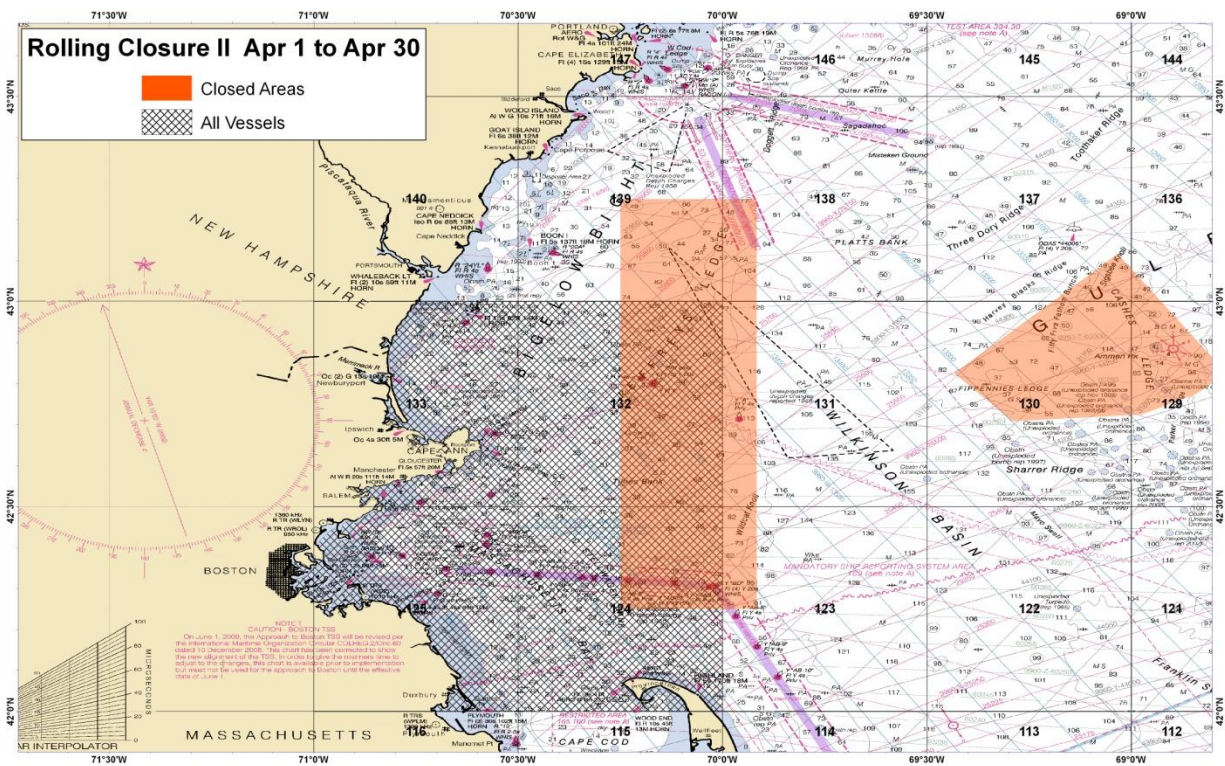
SINK GILLNET GEAR

- All nets are covered with canvas or other similar material and lashed or otherwise securely fastened to the deck or rail, and all buoys larger than 6 inches in diameter, high flyers, and anchors are disconnected.

GOM ROLLING CLOSURE AREAS

The GOM Rolling Closure Areas depicted below are closed to all fishing vessels with the following exemptions: Vessels that do not have a Federal NE multispecies permit and are fishing exclusively in state waters; charter and party vessels*; recreational vessels; vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook and line, pelagic longlines, single pelagic gillnets, shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates); and sea scallop dredge gear when under a scallop day-at-sea (DAS), or lawfully in a scallop dredge exemption area. In addition, sector vessels are exempt from portions of the rolling GOM Closure Areas (as depicted below).

*Charter and party vessels may fish in the GOM Rolling Closure Areas provided they have a Letter of Authorization (LOA) from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in these areas. A letter of authorization is valid from the date of enrollment through the duration of the closure or 3 months duration, whichever is greater, and is available by calling the Permit Office at 978-281-9370.

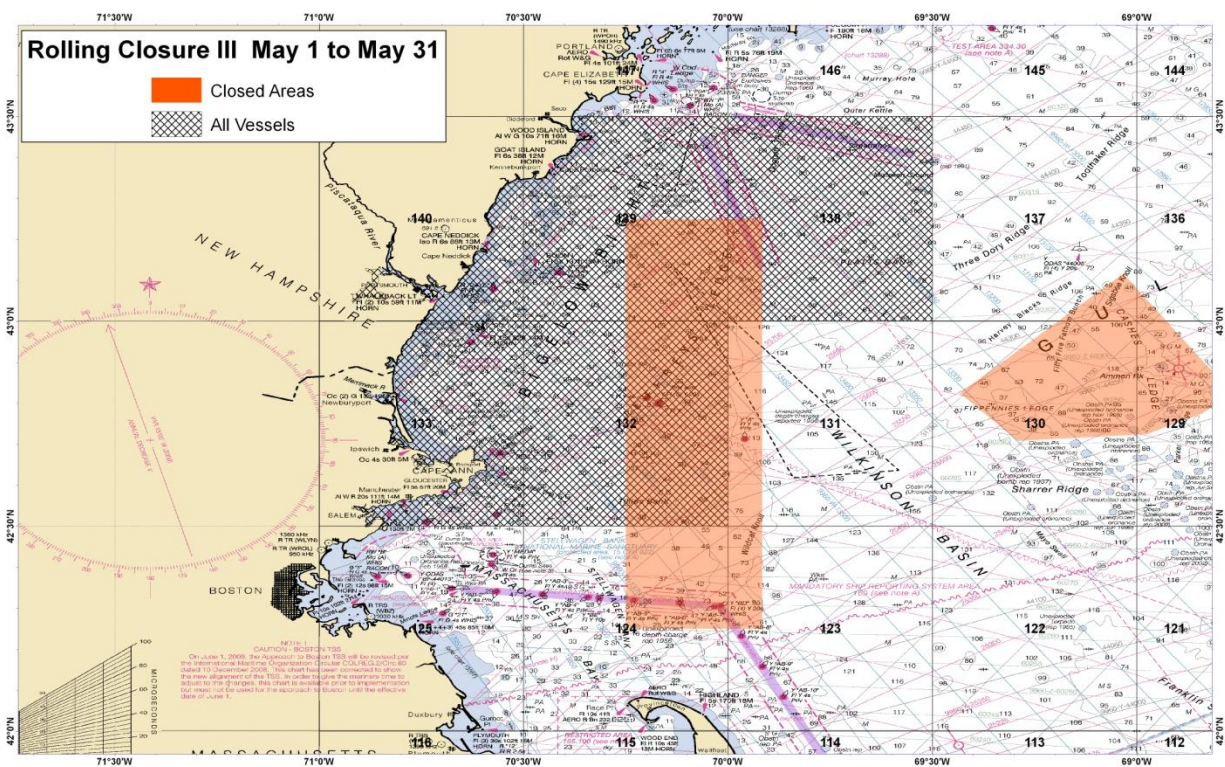


Rolling Closure Area II is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Rolling Closure Area II – Sectors

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	42° 00'	(1)
2	42° 00'	(2)
3	42° 00'	(3)
4	42° 00'	70° 00'
5	43° 00'	70° 00'
6	43° 00'	(4)

- (1) Massachusetts shoreline
- (2) Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay
- (3) Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean
- (4) New Hampshire shoreline



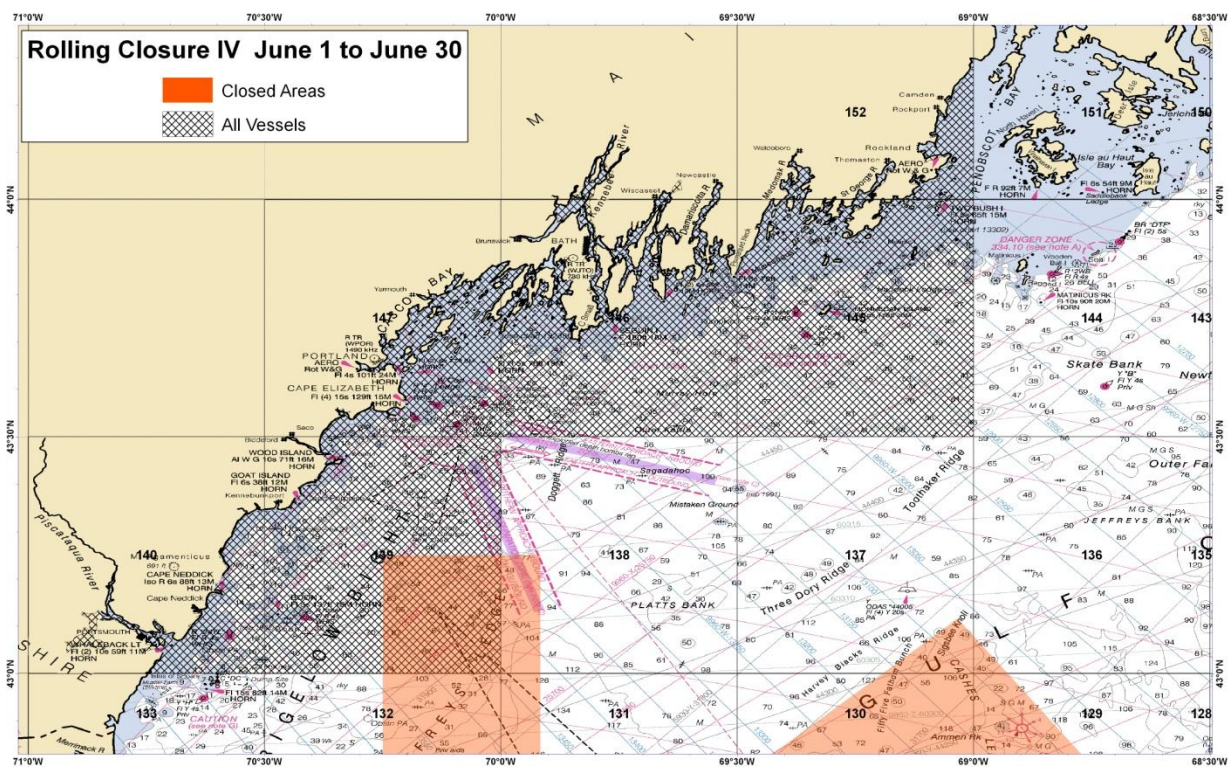
Rolling Closure Area III is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Rolling Closure Area III - Sectors

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	42° 30'	(1)
2	42° 30'	70° 00'
3	43° 00'	70° 00'
4	43° 00'	69° 30'
5	43° 30'	69° 30'
6	43° 30'	(2)

(1) Massachusetts shoreline

(2) Maine shoreline



Rolling Closure Area IV is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

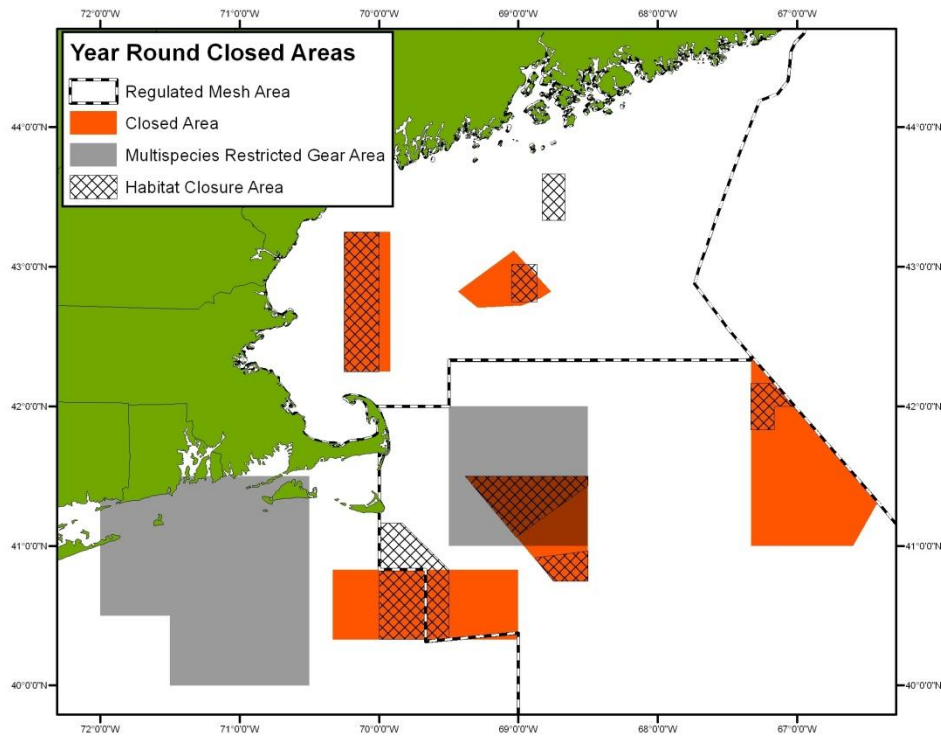
Rolling Closure Area IV - Sectors

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	43° 00'	(1)
2	43° 00'	70° 00'
3	43° 30'	70° 00'
4	43° 30'	69° 00'
5	(2)	69° 00'

(1) New Hampshire shoreline

(2) Maine shoreline

YEAR-ROUND GROUNDFISH CLOSED AREAS



WESTERN GOM AND CASHES LEDGE

The Western GOM and Cashes Ledge Closure Areas depicted above are closed year-round to all fishing vessels, with the following exemptions: Charter and party* or recreational vessels; vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook and line, pelagic longlines, single pelagic gillnets, and shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates).

*Charter and party vessels may fish in the Western GOM and Cashes Ledge Closure Areas provided they have a Letter of Authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in these areas. A Charter/Party LOA is valid from the date of enrollment until the end of the fishing year and is available by calling the Permit Office at 978-281-9370.

The Western GOM Closure Area and the Cashes Ledge Closure Area, respectively, are defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Western GOM Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
WGM1	42° 15'	70° 15'
WGM2	42° 15'	69° 55'
WGM3	43° 15'	69° 55'
WGM4	43° 15'	70° 15'
WGM1	42° 15'	70° 15'

Cashes Ledge Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CL1	43° 07'	69° 02'
CL2	42° 49.5'	68° 46'
CL3	42° 46.5'	68° 50.5'
CL4	42° 43.5'	68° 58.5'
CL5	42° 42.5'	69° 17.5'
CL6	42° 49.5'	69° 26'
CL1	43° 07'	69° 02'

CA I, CA II, AND NLCA

The following applies to the CA I, CA II, and the NLCA. Unless further restricted under the EFH Closure areas, these areas are closed year-round to all fishing vessels, with the following exceptions: Vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook and line gear, pelagic longline gear, harpoon gear, tuna purse seine, pelagic mid-water trawl gear*, and tuna purse seine gear, provided no regulated species are kept and no other gear capable of catching NE multispecies is on board. Additional area exemptions are identified below under the respective closures.

*Vessels using mid-water trawl gear must have on board a LOA issued by the Regional Administrator. Mid-water trawl vessels are issued a LOA for a minimum of 7 days. The vessel can be issued LOAs for the mid-water trawl exempted fishery and the purse seine exempted fishery at the same time. A LOA may be obtained by calling the Permit Office at 978-281-9370.

CA I – In addition to the exemptions summarized in the first paragraph of this section the following vessels are also exempt from CA I: Vessels participating in a NE multispecies Special Access Program (SAP) and vessels fishing for scallops in the CA I Access Area.

CA I is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

CA I		
Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CI1	41° 30'	69° 23'
CI2	40° 45'	68° 45'
CI3	40° 45'	68° 30'
CI4	41° 30'	68° 30'
CI1	41° 30'	69° 23'

CA II – In addition to the exemptions summarized in the first paragraph of this section the following vessels are also exempt from CA II: Vessels fishing in a SAP.

CA II is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

CA II		
Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CII1	41° 00'	67° 20'
CII2	41° 00'	66° 35.8' *
G5	41° 18.6'	66° 24.8' *
CII3	42° 22'	67° 20'
CII1	41° 00'	67° 20'

*The U.S.-Canada maritime boundary

NLCA – In addition to the exemptions summarized in the first paragraph of this section the following vessels are also exempt from the NLCA: Scallop vessels fishing in the Nantucket Lightship Access Area and charter/party or recreational vessels. Charter and party vessels must have a LOA from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A LOA may be obtained by calling the Permit Office at 978-281-9370.

NLCA is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Nantucket Lightship Closed Area		
Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
G10	40° 50'	69° 00'
CN1	40° 20'	69° 00'
CN2	40° 20'	70° 20'
CN3	40° 50'	70° 20'
G10	40° 50'	69° 00'

YEAR-ROUND EFH CLOSURES

EFH Closure Areas depicted on page five, and whose coordinates are below, are closed year-round to all bottom-tending mobile gears. Bottom-tending mobile gear is defined as the following: Gear in contact with the ocean bottom, and towed from a vessel, which is moved through the water during fishing in order to capture fish, and includes otter trawls, beam trawls, hydraulic dredges, non-hydraulic dredges, and seines (with the exception of a purse seine).

The Western GOM Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Western GOM Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
WGM4	43° 15'	70° 15'
WGM1	42° 15'	70° 15'
WGM5	42° 15'	70° 00'
WGM6	43° 15'	70° 00'
WGM4	43° 15'	70° 15'

The Cashes Ledge Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Cashes Ledge Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CLH1	43° 01'	69° 03'
CLH2	43° 01'	68° 52'
CLH3	42° 45'	68° 52'
CLH4	42° 45'	69° 03'
CLH1	43° 01'	69° 03'

The Jeffrey's Bank Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Jeffrey's Bank Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
JB1	43° 40'	68° 50'
JB2	43° 40'	68° 40'
JB3	43° 20'	68° 40'
JB4	43° 20'	68° 50'
JB1	43° 40'	68° 50'

The CA I North Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

CA I North Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CI1	41° 30'	69° 23'
CI4	41° 30'	68° 30'
CIH1	41° 26'	68° 30'
CIH2	41° 04'	69° 01'
CI1	41° 30'	69° 23'

The CA I South Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

CA I South Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CIH3	40° 55'	68° 53'
CIH4	40° 58'	68° 30'
CI3	40° 45'	68° 30'
CI2	40° 45'	68° 45'
CIH3	40° 55'	68° 53'

The CA II Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

CA II Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CIH1	42° 10'	67° 20'
CIH2	42° 10'	67° 9.3'
CIH3	42° 00'	67° 0.5'
CIH4	42° 00'	67° 10'
CIH5	41° 50'	67° 10'
CIH6	41° 50'	67° 20'
CIH1	42° 10'	67° 20'

The Nantucket Lightship Habitat Closure Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

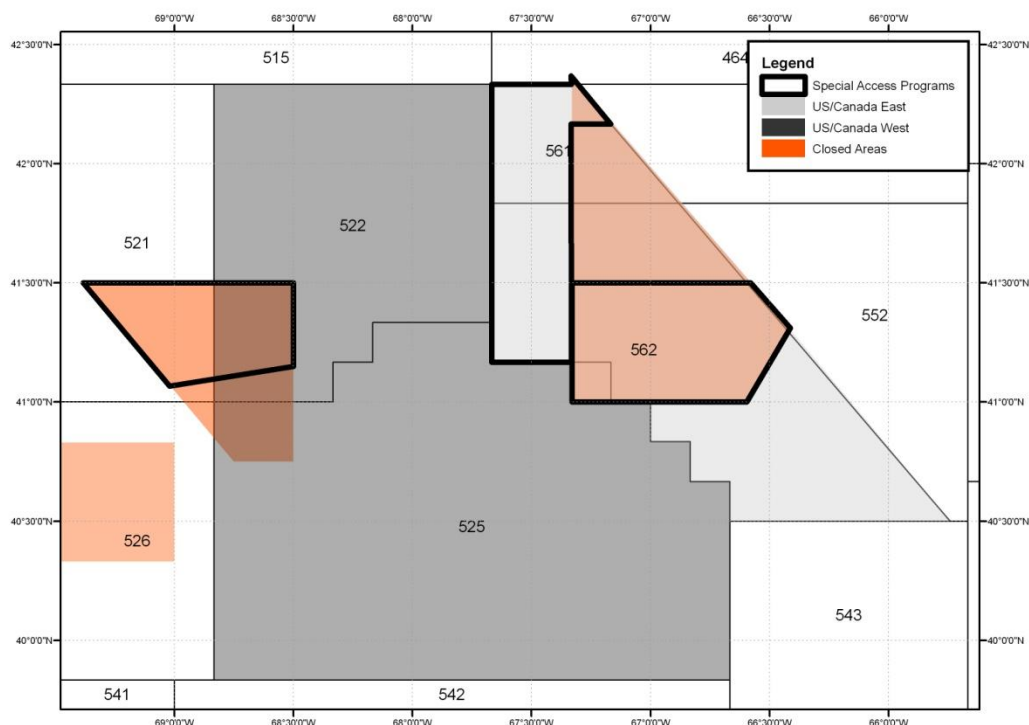
Nantucket Lightship Habitat Closure Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
NLH1	41° 10'	70° 00'
NLH2	41° 10'	69° 50'
NLH3	40° 50'	69° 30'
NLH4	40° 20'	69° 30'
NLH5	40° 20'	70° 00'
NLH1	41° 10'	70° 00'

US/CA MANAGEMENT AREAS AND SAPs

This is an overview of US/CA and SAP areas and coordinates (pages 8-9). The regulations may be found at 50 CFR 648.85. For the complete information sheet regarding these programs, please see:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/infodocs/USCABDASSAP.pdf>.



The Western and Eastern U.S./Canada Areas are defined by straight lines connecting the following points, in order:

Western U.S./Canada Area		
Point	N. lat.	W. long.
USCA 1	42° 20'	68° 50'
USCA 2	39° 50'	68° 50'
USCA 3	39° 50'	66° 40'
USCA 4	40° 40'	66° 40'
USCA 5	40° 40'	66° 50'
USCA 6	40° 50'	66° 50'
USCA 7	40° 50'	67° 00'
USCA 8	41° 00'	67° 00'
USCA 9	41° 00'	67° 20'
USCA 10	41° 10'	67° 20'
USCA 11	41° 10'	67° 40'
USCA 12	42° 20'	67° 40'
USCA 1	42° 20'	68° 50'

Eastern U.S./Canada Area		
Point	N. lat.	W. long.
USCA 12	42° 20'	67° 40'
USCA 11	41° 10'	67° 40'
USCA 10	41° 10'	67° 20'
USCA 9	41° 00'	67° 20'
USCA 8	41° 00'	67° 00'
USCA 7	40° 50'	67° 00'
USCA 6	40° 50'	66° 50'
USCA 5	40° 40'	66° 50'
USCA 4	40° 40'	66° 40'
USCA 15	40° 30'	66° 40'
USCA 14	40° 30'	65° 44.3'
USCA 13	42° 20'	67° 18.4'
USCA 12	42° 20'	67° 40'

The Eastern U.S./Canada Haddock SAP Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points, in order:

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
CA II 3	42° 22'	67° 20'
SAP 1	42° 20'	67° 20'
SAP 2	42° 20'	67° 40'
SAP 3	41° 10'	67° 40'
SAP 4	41° 10'	67° 20'
SAP 5	42° 10'	67° 20'
SAP 6	42° 10'	67° 10'
CA II 3	42° 22'	67° 20'

The CA I HGH Access Area SAP is defined by straight lines connecting the following points:

Point	North Latitude	West Longitude
Hook 1	41° 09'	68° 30'
Hook 2	41° 30'	68° 30'
Hook 3	41° 30'	69° 23'
Hook 4	41° 04'	69° 01'

The CA II Yellowtail Flounder - Haddock Access Area SAP is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
Ytail 1	41° 30'	67° 20'
Ytail 2	41° 30'	66° 34.8'
G 5	41° 18.6'	66° 24.8'
CII 2	41° 00'	66° 35.8'
CII 1	41° 00'	67° 20'
Ytail 1	41° 30'	67° 20'

RESTRICTED GEAR AREAS (RGAs)

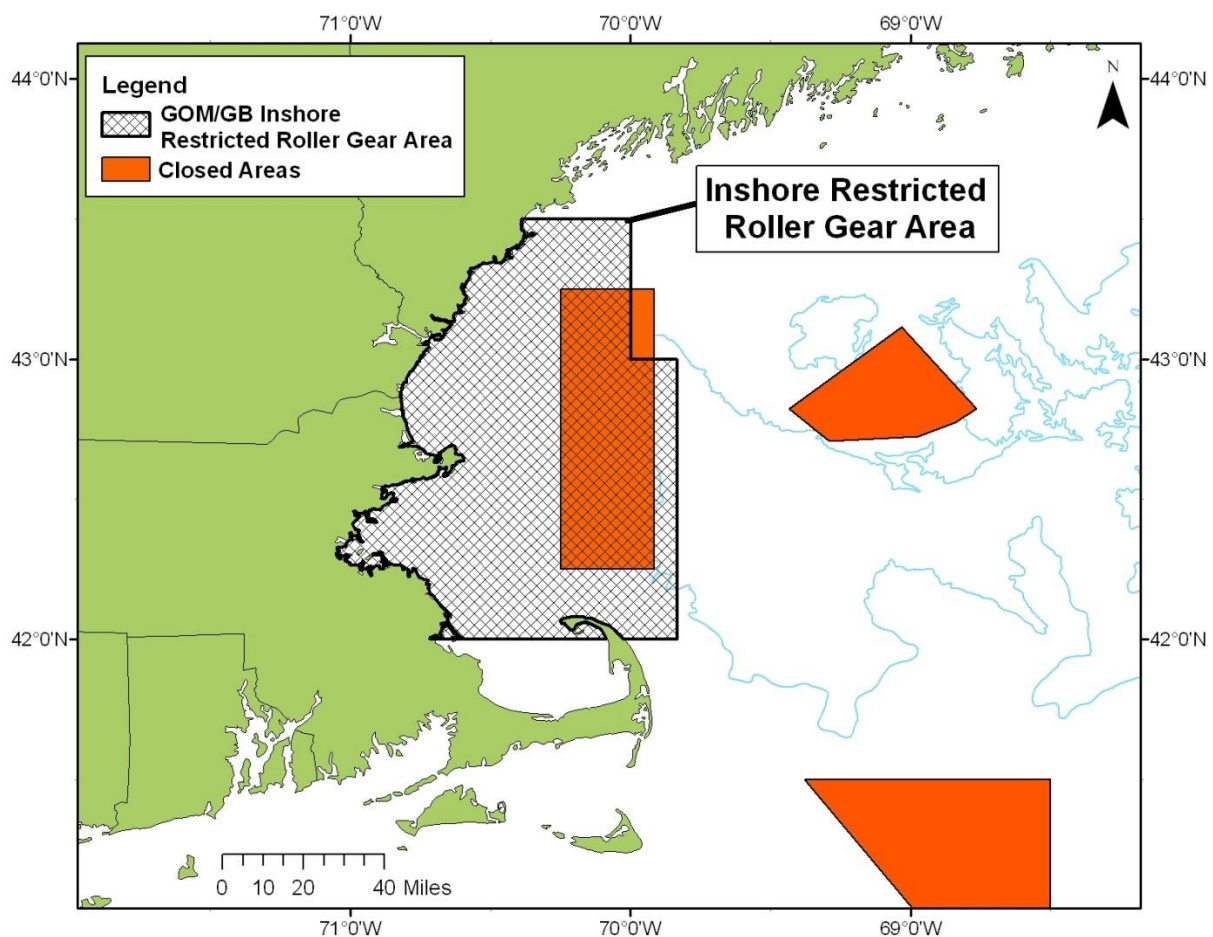
INSHORE RESTRICTED ROLLER GEAR AREA

For all trawl vessels fishing in the GOM/GB Inshore Restricted Roller Gear Area, the maximum diameter of any part of the trawl footrope, including discs, rollers or rockhoppers, may not exceed 12 inches. The area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Inshore Restricted Roller Gear Area

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
GM1	42° 00'	(1)
GM2	42° 00'	(2)
GM3	42° 00'	(3)
GM23	42° 00'	69° 50'
GM24	43° 00'	69° 50'
GM11	43° 00'	70° 00'
GM17	43° 30'	70° 00'
GM18	43° 30'	(4)

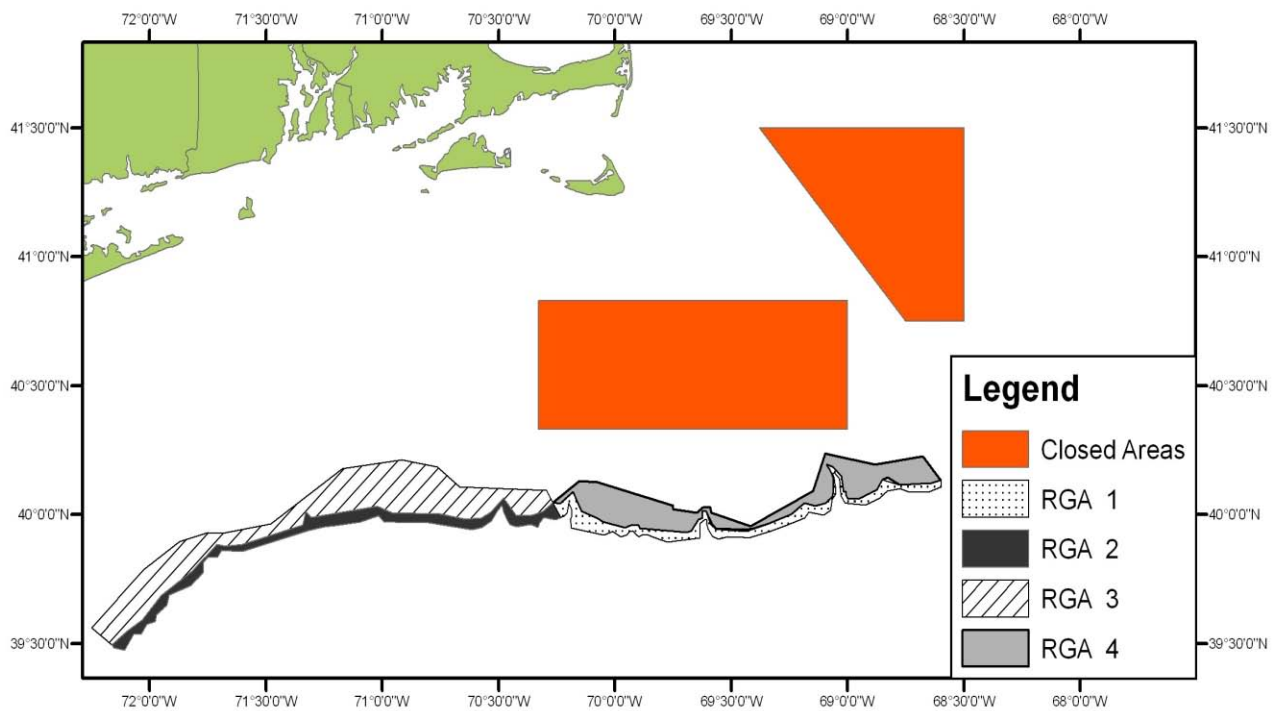
- (1) Massachusetts shoreline
- (2) Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay
- (3) Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean
- (4) Maine shoreline



MOBILE GEAR AND LOBSTER TRAP/POT RGAs

The following summarizes measures to separate mobile gear and lobster trap/pot gear in time and area according to the schedule below. Mobile gear vessels may transit the areas when closed, provided that all mobile gear is on board the vessel while inside the area.

Mobile Gear and Lobster Trap/Pot RGAs		
RGA	Closed to mobile gear	Closed to trap/pot gear
I	October 1 - June 15	June 16 – September 30
II	November 27 - June 15	June 16 – November 26
III	June 16 - November 26	January 1 – April 30
IV	June 16 - September 30	No closure



Mobile Gear and Lobster Trap/Pot RGA		
RGA	Closed to mobile gear	Closed to trap/pot gear
I	October 1 - June 15	June 16 – September 30

Inshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 120		
69	40° 07.9'	68° 36.0'
70	40° 07.2'	68° 38.4'
71	40° 06.9'	68° 46.5'
72	40° 08.7'	68° 49.6'
73	40° 08.1'	68° 51.0'
74	40° 05.7'	68° 52.4'
75	40° 03.6'	68° 57.2'
76	40° 03.65'	69° 00.0'
77	40° 04.35'	69° 00.5'
78	40° 05.2'	69° 00.5'
79	40° 05.3'	69° 01.1'
80	40° 08.9'	69° 01.75'
81	40° 11.0'	69° 03.8'
82	40° 11.6'	69° 05.4'
83	40° 10.25'	69° 04.4'
84	40° 09.75'	69° 04.15'
85	40° 08.45'	69° 03.6'
86	40° 05.65'	69° 03.55'
87	40° 04.1'	69° 03.9'
88	40° 02.65'	69° 05.6'
89	40° 02.00'	69° 08.35'
90	40° 02.65'	69° 11.15'
91	40° 00.05'	69° 14.6'
92	39° 57.8'	69° 20.35'
93	39° 56.65'	69° 24.4'
94	39° 56.1'	69° 26.35'
95	39° 56.55'	69° 34.1'
96	39° 57.85'	69° 35.5'
97	40° 00.65'	69° 36.5'
98	40° 00.9'	69° 37.3'
99	39° 59.15'	69° 37.3'
100	39° 58.8'	69° 38.45'
102	39° 56.2'	69° 40.2'
103	39° 55.75'	69° 41.4'
104	39° 56.7'	69° 53.6'
105	39° 57.55'	69° 54.05'
106	39° 57.4'	69° 55.9'
107	39° 56.9'	69° 57.45'
108	39° 58.25'	70° 03.0'
110	39° 59.2'	70° 04.9'
111	40° 00.7'	70° 08.7'
112	40° 03.75'	70° 10.15'
115	40° 05.2'	70° 10.9'
116	40° 02.45'	70° 14.1'
119	40° 02.75'	70° 16.1'
To 181		

Offshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 69		
120	40° 06.4'	68° 35.8'
121	40° 05.25'	68° 39.3'
122	40° 05.4'	68° 44.5'
123	40° 06.0'	68° 46.5'
124	40° 07.4'	68° 49.6'
125	40° 05.55'	68° 49.8'
126	40° 03.9'	68° 51.7'
127	40° 02.25'	68° 55.4'
128	40° 02.6'	69° 00.0'
129	40° 02.75'	69° 00.75'
130	40° 04.2'	69° 01.75'
131	40° 06.15'	69° 01.95'
132	40° 07.25'	69° 02.0'
133	40° 08.5'	69° 02.25'
134	40° 09.2'	69° 03.3'
135	40° 09.75'	69° 03.3'
136	40° 09.55'	69° 03.85'
137	40° 08.4'	69° 03.4'
138	40° 07.2'	69° 03.3'
139	40° 06.0'	69° 03.1'
140	40° 05.4'	69° 03.5'
141	40° 04.8'	69° 03.05'
142	40° 03.55'	69° 03.55'
143	40° 01.9'	69° 03.95'
144	40° 01.0'	69° 04.4'
146	39° 59.9'	69° 06.25'
147	40° 00.6'	69° 10.5'
148	39° 59.25'	69° 11.15'
149	39° 57.45'	69° 16.05'
150	39° 56.1'	69° 20.1'
151	39° 54.6'	69° 25.65'
152	39° 54.65'	69° 26.9'
153	39° 54.8'	69° 30.95'
154	39° 54.35'	69° 33.4'
155	39° 55.0'	69° 34.9'
156	39° 56.55'	69° 36.0'
157	39° 57.95'	69° 36.45'
158	39° 58.75'	69° 36.3'
159	39° 58.8'	69° 36.95'
160	39° 57.95'	69° 38.1'
161	39° 54.5'	69° 38.25'
162	39° 53.6'	69° 46.5'
163	39° 54.7'	69° 50.0'
164	39° 55.25'	69° 51.4'
165	39° 55.2'	69° 53.1'
166	39° 54.85'	69° 53.9'
167	39° 55.7'	69° 54.35'
168	39° 56.15'	69° 55.35'
169	39° 56.05'	69° 56.25'
170	39° 55.3'	69° 57.1'
171	39° 54.8'	69° 58.6'
172	39° 56.05'	70° 00.65'
173	39° 55.3'	70° 02.95'
174	39° 56.9'	70° 11.3'
175	39° 58.9'	70° 11.5'
176	39° 59.6'	70° 11.1'
177	40° 01.35'	70° 11.2'
178	40° 02.6'	70° 12.0'
179	40° 00.4'	70° 12.3'
180	39° 59.75'	70° 13.05'
181	39° 59.3'	70° 14.0'
To 119		

Mobile Gear and Lobster Trap/Pot RGA		
RGA	Closed to mobile gear	Closed to trap/pot gear
II	November 27 - June 15	June 16 – November 26

Inshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 1		
49	40° 02.75'	70° 16.1'
50	40° 00.7'	70° 18.6'
51	39° 59.8'	70° 21.75'
52	39° 59.75'	70° 25.5'
53	40° 03.85'	70° 28.75'
54	40° 00.55'	70° 32.1'
55	39° 59.15'	70° 34.45'
56	39° 58.9'	70° 38.65'
57	40° 00.1'	70° 45.1'
58	40° 00.5'	70° 57.6'
59	40° 02.0'	71° 01.3'
60	39° 59.3'	71° 18.4'
61	40° 00.7'	71° 19.8'
62	39° 57.5'	71° 20.6'
63	39° 53.1'	71° 36.1'
64	39° 52.6'	71° 40.35'
65	39° 53.1'	71° 42.7'
66	39° 46.95'	71° 49.0'
67	39° 41.15'	71° 57.1'
68	39° 35.45'	72° 02.0'
69	39° 32.65'	72° 06.1'
70	39° 29.75'	72° 09.8'
To 48		

Offshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 49		
1	39° 59.3'	70° 14.0'
2	39° 58.85'	70° 15.2'
3	39° 59.3'	70° 18.4'
4	39° 58.1'	70° 19.4'
5	39° 57.0'	70° 19.85'
6	39° 57.0'	70° 21.25'
7	39° 57.5'	70° 22.8'
8	39° 57.1'	70° 25.4'
9	39° 57.65'	70° 27.05'
10	39° 58.58'	70° 27.7'
11	40° 00.65'	70° 28.8'
12	40° 02.2'	70° 29.15'
13	40° 01.0'	70° 30.2'
14	39° 58.58'	70° 31.85'
15	39° 57.05'	70° 34.35'
16	39° 56.42'	70° 36.8'
21	39° 58.15'	70° 48.0'
24	39° 58.3'	70° 51.1'
25	39° 58.1'	70° 52.25'
26	39° 58.05'	70° 53.55'
27	39° 58.4'	70° 59.6'
28	39° 59.8'	71° 01.05'
29	39° 58.2'	71° 05.85'
30	39° 57.45'	71° 12.15'
31	39° 57.2'	71° 15.0'
32	39° 56.3'	71° 18.95'
33	39° 51.4'	71° 36.1'
34	39° 51.75'	71° 41.5'
35	39° 50.05'	71° 42.5'
36	39° 50.0'	71° 45.0'
37	39° 48.95'	71° 46.05'
38	39° 46.6'	71° 46.1'
39	39° 43.5'	71° 49.4'
40°	39° 41.3'	71° 55.0'
41	39° 39.0'	71° 55.6'
42	39° 36.72'	71° 58.25'
43	39° 35.15'	71° 58.55'
44	39° 34.5'	72° 00.75'
45	39° 32.2'	72° 02.25'
46	39° 32.15'	72° 04.1'
47	39° 28.5'	72° 06.5'
48	39° 29.0'	72° 09.25'
To 70		

Mobile Gear and Lobster Trap/Pot RGA		
RGA	Closed to mobile gear	Closed to trap/pot gear
III	June 16 - November 26	January 1 – April 30

Inshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 49		
182	40° 05.6'	70° 17.7'
183	40° 06.5'	70° 40 .05'
184	40° 11.05'	70° 45.8'
185	40° 12.75'	70° 55.05'
186	40° 10.7'	71° 10.25'
187	39° 57.9'	71° 28.7'
188	39° 55.6'	71° 41.2'
189	39° 55.85'	71° 45.0'
190	39° 53.75'	71° 52.25'
191	39° 47.2'	72° 01.6'
192	39° 33.65'	72° 15.0'
To 70		

Offshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
To 182		
49	40° 02.75'	70° 16.1'
50	40° 00.7'	70° 18.6'
51	39° 59.8'	70° 21.75'
52	39° 59.75'	70° 25.5'
53	40° 03.85'	70° 28.75'
54	40° 00.55'	70° 32.1'
55	39° 59.15'	70° 34.45'
56	39° 58.9'	70° 38.65'
57	40° 00.1'	70° 45.1'
58	40° 00.5'	70° 57.6'
59	40° 02.0'	71° 01.3'
60	39° 59.3'	71° 18.4'
61	40° 00.7'	71° 19.8'
62	39° 57.5'	71° 20.6'
63	39° 53.1'	71° 40.35'
64	39° 52.6'	71° 40.35'
65	39° 53.1'	71° 42.7'
66	39° 46.95'	71° 49.0'
67	39° 41.15'	71° 57.1'
68	39° 35.45'	72° 02.0'
69	39° 32.65'	72° 06.1'
70	39° 29.75'	72° 09.8'
To 192		

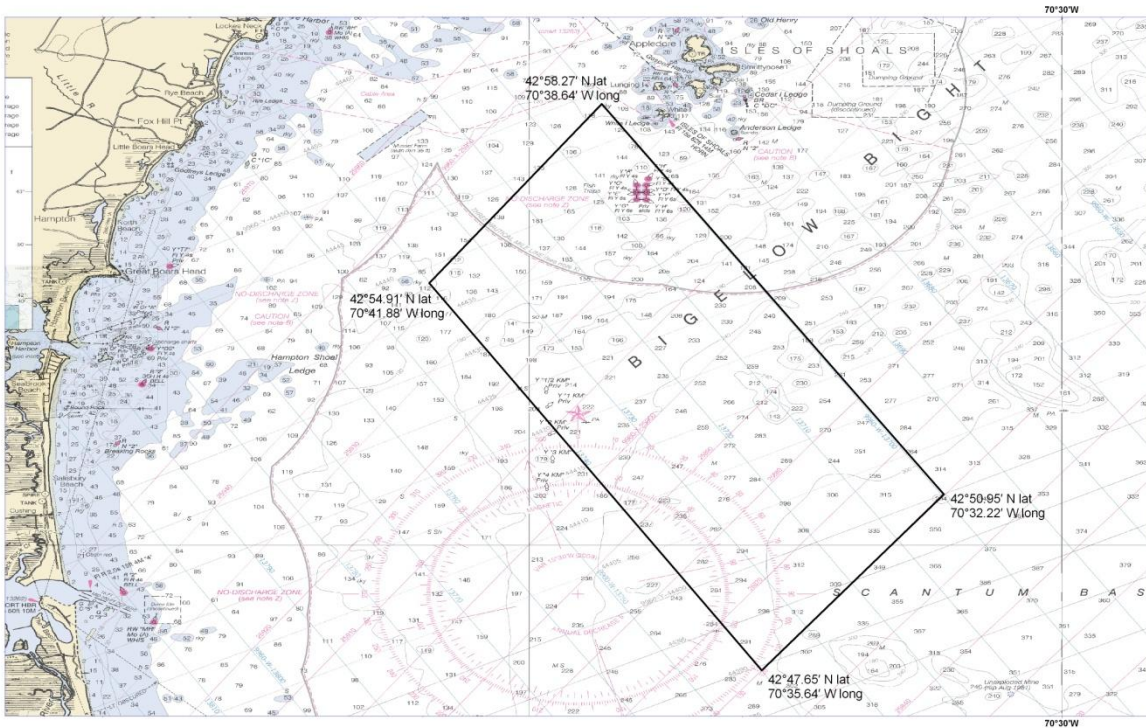
Mobile Gear and Lobster Trap/Pot RGA		
RGA	Closed to mobile gear	Closed to trap/pot gear
IV	June 16 - September 30	No closure

Inshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
193	40° 13.6'	68° 40.6'
194	40° 11.6'	68° 53.0'
195	40° 14.0'	69° 04.70'
196	40° 14.30'	69° 05.80'
197	40° 05.5'	69° 09.0'
198	39° 57.3'	69° 25.10'
199	40° 00.40'	69° 35.20'
200	40° 01.70'	69° 35.40'
201	40° 01.70'	69° 37.40'
202	40° 00.50'	69° 38.80'
203	40° 01.30'	69° 45.00'
204	40° 02.10'	69° 45.00'
205	40° 07.60'	70° 04.50'
206	40° 07.80'	70° 09.20'
To 119		

Offshore Boundary		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
69	40° 07.90'	68° 36.00'
70	40° 07.2'	68° 38.40'
71	40° 06.90'	68° 46.50'
72	40° 08.70'	68° 49.60'
73	40° 08.10'	68° 51.00'
74	40° 05.70'	68° 52.40'
75	40° 03.60'	68° 57.20'
76	40° 03.65'	69° 00.00'
77	40° 04.35'	69° 00.50'
78	40° 05.20'	69° 00.50'
79	40° 05.30'	69° 01.10'
80	40° 08.90'	69° 01.75'
81	40° 11.00'	69° 03.80'
82	40° 11.60'	69° 05.40'
83	40° 10.25'	69° 04.40'
84	40° 09.75'	69° 04.15'
85	40° 08.45'	69° 03.60'
86	40° 05.65'	69° 03.55'
87	40° 04.10'	69° 03.90'
88	40° 02.65'	69° 05.60'
89	40° 02.00'	69° 08.35'
90	40° 02.65'	69° 11.15'
91	40° 00.05'	69° 14.60'
92	39 57.8'	69° 20.35'
93	39 56.75'	69° 24.40'
94	39 56.50'	69° 26.35'
95	39 56.80'	69° 34.10'
96	39 57.85'	69° 35.05'
97	40° 00.65'	69° 37.30'
98	40° 00.90'	69° 37.30'
99	39 59.15'	69° 37.30'
100	39 58.80'	69° 38.45'
102	39 56.20'	69° 40.20'
103	39 55.75'	69° 41.40'
104	39 56.70'	69° 53.60'
105	39 57.55'	69° 54.05'
106	39 57.40'	69° 55.90'
107	39 56.90'	69° 57.45'
108	39 58.25'	70° 03.00'
110	39 59.20'	70° 04.90'
111	40° 00.70'	70° 08.70'
112	40° 03.75'	70° 10.15'
115	40° 05.20'	70° 10.90'
116	40° 02.45'	70° 14.1'
119	40° 02.75'	70° 16.1'
To 206		

GOM COD SPAWNING PROTECTION AREA

To prevent fishing activities from interfering with known areas of spawning activity for GOM cod located just south of the Isle of Shoals off NH, the FW 45 final rule created the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area (see image below). The provisions for this protection area are described below.



Gear Restrictions: The following gear restrictions apply to either a commercial or recreational fishing vessel fishing in the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area:

- **Commercial vessels:** From June 1 through June 30 of each year, a commercial fishing vessel is prohibited from fishing within the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area using gear capable of catching groundfish, including mid-water trawl and purse seine gear. A commercial fishing vessel may use only the following exempted gear in this area during June:
 - Pelagic hook-and-line gear, pelagic longline gear, spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dipnets, stop nets, pound nets, pelagic gillnets, pots and traps, shrimp trawls with a properly configured grate, and surfclam and ocean quahog dredges.
 - Pelagic gillnet gear is defined as a single pelagic gillnet that is no longer than 300 ft and not greater than 6 ft deep, with a maximum mesh size of 3 inches (7.6 cm), that is attached to the boat and fished in the upper two-thirds of the water column.
- **Recreational vessels:** From April 1 through June 30 of each year, a recreational vessel, including a private recreational and a charter/party vessel, may only use pelagic hook-and-line gear, as defined below, when fishing in the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area.
 - Pelagic hook-and-line gear is defined as handline or rod and reel gear that is designed to fish for, or that is being used to fish for, pelagic species. No portion of this gear may be operated in contact with the bottom at any time.

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
CSPA1	42° 50.95'	70° 32.22'
CSPA2	42° 47.65'	70° 35.64'
CSPA3	42° 54.91'	70° 41.88'
CSPA4	42° 58.27'	70° 38.64'

Possession Restrictions: Any vessel fishing in the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area and using the exempted gear described above, including pelagic hook-and-line gear by recreational vessels, is prohibited from possessing or retaining regulated species or ocean pout from April 1 through June 30 of each year.

Transiting: Both a recreational and a commercial vessel may transit the GOM Cod Spawning Protection Area, provided all gear is stowed according to existing regulations.